

# SEEING LIFE with JOHN HENRY & George V. Hobart

John Henry on Human Nature

SAY! Did you ever sit around in the Pullman Car and study a few paragraphs from the world's most famous text book—human nature?

Go after it the first chance you get—you'll learn a lot.

For instance, during a trip recently on one of Mr. Pullman's sleep-wagons I soon learned that the brisk and breezy crew in the seats around me were commercial travelers, and they were fanning each other with fairy tales about the goods they sold.

I learned that the one who looked like a human apple was affectionately known as Slim because he's so fat that every time he turns around he meets himself coming back.

And it wasn't hard to learn that the tall one with the sandy hair was Nick Dalrymple, who goes after the orders for a hardware house in Columbus and knows everybody in the world—bar one family living in Yonkers.

Then there was Tod Gilpin, who cuts ice for a match factory in Newark, and he's the life of a small party.

Tod's main hold is to creep into the "reading room" of a Rube hotel after the chores are done of an evening and throw salt at the come-ons.

Tod tells them that their town is the brightest spot on the map, and they warm up to him and want to buy him sarsaparilla and root beer.

Then when he gets them stuck on themselves he sells them matches.

Presently I learned that the party with the mauve forehead and the magenta mustache was Mutt Dawson—the most reckless spendthrift with his words and the meanest man to the English language I ever listened to.

The Dream Builders' Association was in full session when Wedge Murray caromed over and weighed-in with the party.

Wedge is a saucy little party, five foot four, with three foot shoulders. He thinks he strikes twelve on all occasions, but his timepiece is an hour slow.

I learned that Wedge sells canned shirt waists for the Shine Brothers, and if he's ever let into the firm it will be as a brother.

Wedge is one of those goose-headed ginks who scratch gravel and start in to make a killing every time they see a pretty girl.

Across the aisle sat two pet ca-

telegram to your wife in Logansport.

Curtain.

Of course the fact that Wedge didn't have a wife in Logansport or elsewhere made no difference. He couldn't prove an alibi, so he faded out into the day coach and became as one who isn't.

The Roast-Beef Sisters seemed to be all carved up about something or other.

While these more or less grin-producing incidents were occurring there was ever present in my own noodle the grim reality that bedtime was approaching and I had drawn an upper berth.

Say! I'll be one of a party of six to go before Congress and tell all I know about an upper berth.

The upper berth in a sleeping car is the same relation to comfort that a carpet tack is to a bare foot.

As a place to tie up a small bundle of sleep a boiler factory has it beat to a whimper.

Strong men weep every time the ticket agent says, "Nothing left but an upper," and lovely women have hysterics and begin to make faces at the general public when the colored porter points up in the air and says, "Madam, your eagle's nest is ready far up the mountainside."

While the porter was cooking up my attack of insomnia I went out in the smoking room to drown my sorrow, but I found such a bunch of sorrow killers cut there ahead of me that I had to hold the comb and brush in my lap and sit up on the towel rack while I took a little smoke.

Did you ever notice on your travels that peculiar hog on the train who pays two dollars for a berth and always displaces eight dollars' worth of space in the smoking car?

If he would bite the end of a piece of rope and light up occasionally he wouldn't be so bad, but nix on the smoke for him.

He simply sits there with a face like a fish and keeps George Nicotine and all the real rag burners from enjoying a smoke.

If ever a statue is needed of the patriot Butinski I would suggest a model in the person of the smokeless smoker who always travels in the smoking car.

Two busy gazabes were discussing politics when I squeezed into the smoker on this particular occasion.

So I stretched out, but just then the train struck a curve and I went up in the air till the ceiling hit me, and then I bounced over to the edge of the precipice and hung there, trembling on the verge.

Below me all was dark and gloomy, and only by the hoarse groans of the snorers could I tell that the Pullman company was still making money.

Luck was with me, however, for just then the train struck an in-shoot curve which pushed me to the wall, and I bumped my head so completely that I fell asleep.

When I woke up a small package of daylight was peeping into the car, so I decided to descend from my cupboard shelf at once.

I peeped out through the aluminum curtains, but there was no sign of the colored porter and the stepladder was invisible to the naked eye.

The car was peaceful now, with the exception of a gent in lower No. 4, who had a strange hold on a Bee-thoven sonata and was beating the cadence out of it.

I made a short prayer and concluded to fall out, but just then one of my feet rested on something solid; so I put both feet on it and began to step down.

Alas, however, the moment I put my weight on it my stepping stone gave way and I fell overboard with a splash.

"How dare you put your feet on my head?" yelled the man on the ground noor of my bedroom.

"Excuse me, I felt like something wooden," I whispered, while I dashed madly for the smoker.

From that day to this I have never been able to look a Pullman car in the face, and whenever anybody mentions an upper berth to me I lose my presence of mind and get peevish.

If you have ever been there yourself, I know you don't blame me! Do you?

Dynamiting Mules.

It has recently been discovered that dynamite can be used as an effective and convenient means of getting rid of moles, ground mice and other small destructive animals which burrow into the ground and destroy the roots of plants.

An inch or two of a 40 per cent dynamite stick can be wrapped in paper or cloth and provided with a fuse but no detonator. A charge of this kind should be stuck down into each burrow and some loose dirt packed around the fuse after it is lighted. No explosion will result from the dynamite when used in this way. It will burn slowly, filling the hole with poisonous gases which will kill the animals. This method has recently been put into effect upon a large California ranch. The moles, which frequently ruin the appearance of a city terrace, can also be conquered by this method at the trifling cost of two cents for each hole.

Caddy Is Doomed.

The doom of the caddy is read in the invention of D. and K. Roberts of Grantham, England. They have patented an adjustable golf stick, with interchangeable heads, so that it will be necessary for the player to carry only the stick and as many heads as he wishes to use. Even the number of heads is cut down by having two striking faces on each, either of which may be used.

he laughed toothfully and hit me on the shins with a stepladder.

The spectacular gent who occupied the star chamber beneath my garret was sleeping as noisily as possible, and when I started up the stepladder he began to render Mendelssohn's obbligate for the trombone in the key of G.

Above the roar of the train from away off in lower No. 2 faintly I could hear an answering bugle call.

I climbed up prepared for the worst and in the twinkling of an eye the porter removed the stepladder and there I was, sitting on the perilous edge of my pantry shelf with nothing to comfort me save the exhaust of a professional snorer.

After about five minutes devoted to a parade of all my sins, I began to try to extract my personality from my coat, but when I pushed my arm up in the air to get the sleeve loose my knuckle struck the hardwood finish and I fell backward on the cast-iron pillows, breathing hoarsely like a busy jackrabbit.

I waited about ten minutes while my brain was bobbing back and forth with the excitement of running fifty miles an hour over a careless part of the country, and then I cautiously tried to approach my shoe laces.

Say! If you're a man and you weigh in the neighborhood of 200 pounds, most of which is in the re-



"Their Names Were Millie and Tillie."

gion of the equator, you will appreciate what it means to lie on your back in an upper berth and try to get your shoes off.

And this goes double for the man who weighs more than 200 pounds.

Every time I reached for my feet to get my shoes off I bumped my head off; so I decided that in order to keep my head on I had better keep my shoes on also.

Then I tried to divorce my suspenders from my shoulders but just as I got the suspenders half way over my head I struck my crazy bone on the rafters, and there I was, suspended between heaven and earth, but praying with all my heart for a bottle of arnica.

Finally I decided to sleep as nature made me, with all my clothes on, including my rubbers.

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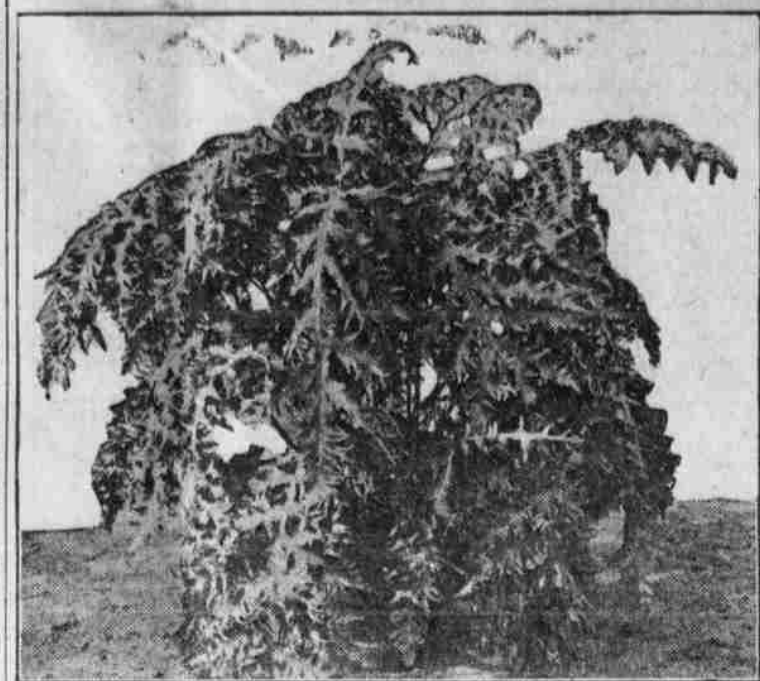
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## The HOME BEAUTIFUL Flowers and Shrubby Their Care and Cultivation



Specimen Polypodium Mandalanum.

### THE WINDOW GARDEN

By EBEN E. REXFORD.

It may not seem reasonable to the reader to treat of winter window gardens in midsummer, but a careful consideration of the subject from my point of view will convince the flower-loving person, I feel quite sure, that this article is "timely."

Look over the window gardens of your neighbors, in winter, when they ought to be at their best to give the fullest degree of satisfaction, and I think you will find the majority of them far from satisfactory.

The plants will be small, much too small to be ornamental; and if you keep an eye on them throughout the season you will find that few of them reach the flowering stage before March, which is to say that most specimens in the ordinary house collection of plants give few or no flowers at the period when a window garden should afford us the greatest amount of pleasure.

What we aim at is flowers in winter—not in the spring, when the blossoms of the outdoor garden are at hand.

Said a woman to me, not long since: "I don't see why it is that I can't have flowers in the winter. Some of my friends have, and they don't take half as good care of their plants as I do."

Why, some of them don't report their plants at all, still I notice they have flowers from them; and I go over all my plants just before winter sets in, and report them and cut them back or start new ones and take pains to give them the best soil and am so careful about watering, and fertilizing, and airing, but most of them will not blossom for me. They look healthy and they grow well, but one doesn't care for just leaves.

Now, this woman's failure to obtain flowers from her plants was explained by three words she made use of—"Just before winter." The attention she gave the plants at that period came several months too late.

The fact is, as anyone will readily see when they come to think the matter over, a plant cannot be satisfactorily developed in two or three months. Not much can be expected from a plant that is not made ready for winter until that season is about upon us.

In order to secure a good collection of good-sized plants for the winter, one must begin to get ready during the summer. By the term "good-sized," I do not mean large plants in the usual sense of the word, but rather plants of sufficient development to justify one in expecting flowers from them for the holidays.

Age is often a more important factor in plant culture than mere size. Young plants seldom bloom while development is taking place most rapidly. They must "get their growth" so to speak, before we can expect them to bend their energies to the production of flowers.

Therefore, I advise the owner of a collection of house plants from which she wishes to secure flowers all through the winter season to get the plants under way now. If some of them are large, cut them back and allow them to renew themselves wholly, as to branches, during the months between now and winter.

Report now, if necessary, and shift such as seem to need larger pots. If young plants are to be used, procure them at once and keep them going ahead steadily.

Do not be so anxious to secure rapid development that you fall into the error of overfeeding. Simply aim to bring about a strong, healthy growth, and as long as a plant seems to be

making such growth do not make use of the fertilizers.

It is one of the hardest things I know of to make an enthusiastic amateur plant grower satisfied to "let well enough alone." She is constantly wanting to urge her pets on a little faster, and in her efforts to do this she gives them more food than they can digest, and the consequence is a breakdown from overstimulation nine times out of ten.

A plant that does not get as much food as it can make good use of, will give vastly greater satisfaction in the long run, than the plant that gets so much food that it doesn't know what to do with it.

Some persons are under the impression that all plants for winter use must be young ones. Such is not the case, however. Year-old plants, as a general thing, are much preferable to the young ones.

There are exceptions as in the case of Chinese primroses, Primula obconica and others of a habit similar, in some respects to our annuals; but for the majority of plants adapted to house culture like geraniums, heliotropes, begonias, abutilons, asparagus in variety and carnations, older plants should always be chosen.

This summer I start the geraniums which I intend to depend upon for winter flowers a year from the coming winter. They will bloom some this winter if I let them, but I shall hold them in check to a great extent for future service.

The person who preaches "young plants for winter flowering" to you does not take into consideration the fact that a plant started this season from a cutting will have but few branches by winter, and a plant that has but few branches cannot give many flowers because ample flowering surface means many branches.

Therefore, instead of letting the geraniums you start this summer blossom in the winter, keep pinching them back to produce a sufficient number of branches to give the desired amount of flowering surface.

The more branches there are the more flowers you may expect.

Cut your ferns apart now and use each division of the roots that has a piece of crown attached as the basis of a new plant. Use leaf mold or turfy loam for this class of plants, if obtainable.

Hanging baskets should receive attention at once.

Roses of all kinds should be thoroughly manured with well-rotted cow manure and mulched with lawn cuttings and leaves.

Liquid manure should be applied only when the ground is moist enough to absorb it.

It is fatal to some plants to fertilize them with rich manure when the ground is very dry.

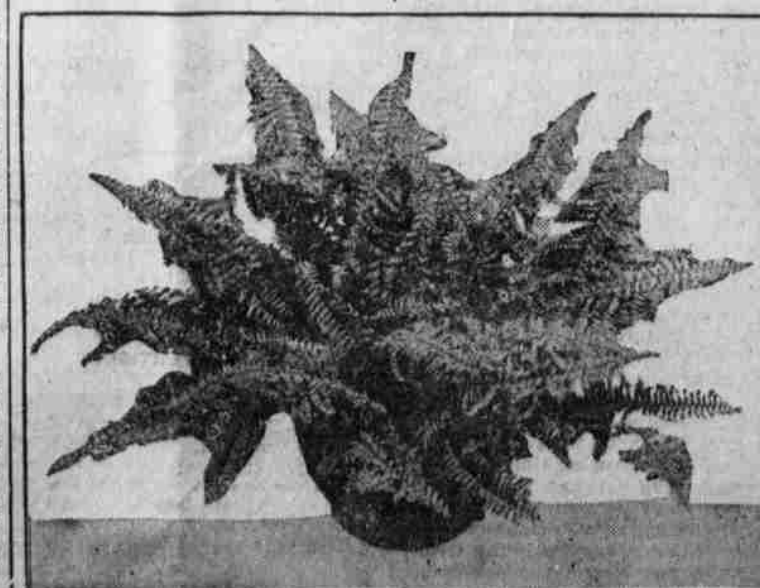
Never allow roses to remain on a bush until the petals begin to fall.

All plants that are intended for winter bloomers should have the buds pinched off now.

Pick the pansies and nasturtiums every day if you want to have plenty of bloom.

MULCH YOUR PLANTS

If the season is warm, and the soil seems likely to dry out rapidly, water your plants well, and mulch about them with road dust. This will prevent the rapid evaporation of moisture from about the roots of the plants. Larger plants can be mulched with grass clippings from the lawn.



Nephrolepis Tuberosa

### DRIED FRUITS IN DESSERTS

Properly Used, It May Be Made to Serve to a Good Purpose as the Fresh.

Dried fruit is quite as nice as fresh, but it has been overworked in the alleged interest of economy. It will make a dessert second to none, if properly used.

The covered enameled ware casserole is the proper cooking utensil for dried fruit. Let it soak over night, and cook very slowly, and it will regain its shape and also its finest flavor. In addition it should have some sort of accompanying flavor. Prunes soaked in just enough wine to cover them and then cooked in this way taste like something costly. Apricots are cooked with raisins are good. So are dried apples cooked in the good, old-fashioned way, in cider. A mixture of two or three kinds of dried fruit, all cooked together, is good. Dried peaches—add a little vanilla to the sirup when they are done. Dried cherries are not used here to any extent, but in England, where the cherry is an old and famous fruit, they are used with currants in plum cake, and very nice they are. It is perfectly practicable to use any sort of dried fruit, cooked slowly in this way, to add flavor to bread puddings or steamed puddings. The fruit can be either mixed with the bread pudding or put in the dish with the bread on top, or in layers; but when it is used the bread should not be soaked in milk; the fruit juice will make enough moisture, and the bread should merely be soaked enough in water to make it soft, and cooked with the fruit, covered.

FOR THE MORNING REPAST

Some Dishes That Are More Than Usually Acceptable in the Hot Weather.

In the summer this meal should be simple and of wholesome, easily digested food. Of course things must be tasty, and quite as much thought and pains should be expended on a light breakfast as on a heavy one. Foods should be selected in reference to their suitability to one another and the season. The Sunday morning breakfast should be different. Banish from the Sunday morning breakfast table anything that is served on week day mornings except coffee.

Here are a few simple menus which may serve as a guide:

Peaches or stewed pears, hominy, poached eggs on toast, cocoa or coffee. Raspberries or blackberries, fried egg plant, toast, coffee.

Blackberries, cream of wheat, mold-ed eggs, toast, coffee.

Fruit, cereal, small broiled lamb chops, with cold asparagus; rolls, coffee.

Fruit, cereal, an omelet with peas, asparagus or tomatoes, biscuits, coffee.

Fruit, cereal, a well-baked salt mackerel, boiled or broiled, with a cream parsley sauce; rolls, cocoa or coffee.

Fruit, cereal, creamed beef, muffins, coffee. Chop fine a cupful of dried beef. Put over the fire with one gill of cream or milk. Season with pepper and stir in four beaten eggs. When thick turn over squares of hot buttered toast.

Orange juice, cereal, broiled mackerel, baked potatoes, toast, coffee.

Carafe Frappe.

Frappé, as most persons know, is to freeze, and carafe is the glass decanter smart folk use at their functions for holding drinking water. Fill the bottles with distilled water to within an inch of the top and then sink them to two-thirds depth in a tub of ice, as for making ice cream; use less salt than for cream, and do not have the ice cover the decanters any higher than stated, as the glass may break. Stopper them with bits of absorbent cotton during the freezing. The ice forms at the bottom of the bottles and the displaced water rises, and as long as the ice remains the decanters can be refilled and used after a few minutes.

Bake Vegetables.

Do not boil vegetables in the old-fashioned way and throw away most of the substance in the water.

Cook them in the oven and preserve the flavor and prevent odors in the house.

This last is especially true of sauerkraut, cabbage and onions. If you have no casserole cook them in a granite pan, placed in a pan of water in the oven. If to be served with a cream sauce, pour a thin sauce over the raw vegetables and cook till tender, or cook with butter or meat fryings or bacon.

Eureka Fudge.

Two cupfuls sugar, three-quarters of a cupful milk, pinch salt, piece butter. Boil without stirring six minutes over gentle fire. Add square of chocolate or three tablespoonsful cocoa, half cupful shredded coconut, and ten marshmallows. Cook, stirring now three more minutes. Add vanilla flavor and beat until cool, standing pan in cold water. Omit marshmallows, if you wish.

Salad Louisiane.

To one pint of shredded celery, finely minced, five oranges and two lemons, dried, add one pint of large strawberries cut in halves which have been put on the ice to chill. Beat two egg yolks very light, add a teaspoonful of very fine salt, the juice of two lemons and lastly, one cupful of strawberry juice poured over the salad just when served.

Fruit Trifle.

For a quick dessert try beating one-half cupful of cream until thick, then fold in one pint of canned peaches, which have been drained. Sweeten to taste. Serve very cold. Other fruit may be used.

Paint Towel Racks.

If towel racks in kitchen and bathrooms are not nickle-plated carefully paint them with at least two coats of white enamel paint, to avoid the possibility of iron rust spots as well as for general cleanliness.

Between Friends.

"Harry took me to the theater last night," said the first dear girl. "We had a box all to ourselves."

"Yes," rejoined dear girl No. 2. "I saw you eating candy in the gallery, but I wasn't quite sure whether you had a box or a paper bag."

Literary Note.

"I object to Shaw's coarseness," said the lady with the ingrowing face.

"And I," responded the man with the fringed collar and the lack of hair cut, "to his of-course-ness."

## Home Town Helps

### BUILT AROUND A DEAD TREE

Summer Rest Seat That Is Not Expensive, and an Ornament to Any Grounds.

The fact that summer rest seats do not have to be expensive to be attractive is demonstrated in the seat seen in the accompanying illustration. The seat has been termed the "Tree Summer Seat," from the fact that it is really built around a tree which was at one time growing at the point where



Attractive Summer Seat and Shade Built About the Trunk of a Dead Tree.

It now stands. Upon finding that the tree had lost all signs of life, the gardener in this park devised the novel idea of turning the dead trunk into this artistic seat rather than dig it out bodily.

Suiting the action to the decision he cut the main limbs off about six feet from the ground and to the top of these he fastened a pretty roof, which is made of palm branches. This done, the seat, which runs all around the trunk at a distance of about a foot and a half from the ground, was made out of sections of palm branches. In addition to being inexpensive, this seat is one of the most attractive in this very elaborate park.

This suggestion might well be followed by others. It is not an uncommon sight to see unsightly dead trees in public parks, which might be converted into useful and ornamental objects instead.—World's Advance.

SCREEN OF GOOD APPEARANCE

Has Durability and is Distinguished Looking, is Claim Made for New Idea on Market.

The attitude of the average person toward screens is expressed by the epigram, "Screens is Screens." When the fly fooler is in need of repairs, the man who is doing the work gets a few yards of screen with no regard to its unrusting and wearing abilities. A western concern has invented a rust-proof which, according to the manufacturers, is finished with ten coats composed of three different materials. The copper coats are put on first; then the zinc coats are applied, and lastly a finishing material of lacquer is put on, which protects the zinc and also adds to the rust-resisting qualities of the screen.

All these coats are applied to the wire cloth after weaving by an electro-galvanizing process.

The color after finishing is a dull aluminum, making a handsome, distinguished looking screen.

Billboards a Public Nuisance.

Billboards are a public nuisance. They are dangers to human beings who have to live near them. They present real perils from the standpoint of public health, fire protection, police protection and reasonable safeguarding against accident.

This is the new and practical principle upon which the city council is now asked to amend Sections 706 and 707 of the present building code.

It is a weapon against the billboard nuisance forced out of the perfectly definite practical rights of the citizen instead of from that newer metal known as his aesthetic rights. We may not have reached the stage when we have established the fact that a citizen has the right to be protected against eye-aches, but we certainly long ago reached the point when we recognized that his sanitary well-being, the protection of his life and property were charges of the state.—Chicago Post.

Barbers Soul for Lump of Soil.

The vice of earth eating is spreading through tropical parts of the Americas, the natives being from infancy addicted to the fatal habit, known scientifically as geophagy. It is always fatal, producing dysentery in adults and dropsy in the very young. Native mothers inculcate the vice into their children by giving them chunks of soft clay to eat. Once fastened on a person, the vice of geophagy becomes insatiable, and the victim will barter his immortal soul for a lump of soft, white clay.

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